

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 4 is amended.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended by Examiner Mariam and Examiner Patel to Applicant's representative during the May 19, 2004 personal interview. The points discussed are incorporated into the Remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

Applicant also appreciates the indication of allowability for claims 11 and 12. However, for the reasons discussed below, Applicant submits that all of claims 1-25 are allowable.

Claim 4 was objected to based on an informality. By this Amendment, Applicant amends claim 4 as proposed by the Examiner. It is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-8, 10 and 13-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Haneda et al. (Haneda), U.S. Patent No. 5,698,822. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the personal interview, Haneda fails to disclose the features recited in claims 1, 17, 20 and 23 because Haneda is concerned about a process that occurs before Applicant's invention. Haneda is only concerned with turning image data into stroke data. Accordingly, Haneda fails to disclose all of the features recited in claims 1, 17, 20 and 23 as well as the additional features recited in the dependent claims thereof. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Haneda in view of Siegel, U.S. Patent No. 6,151,611. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

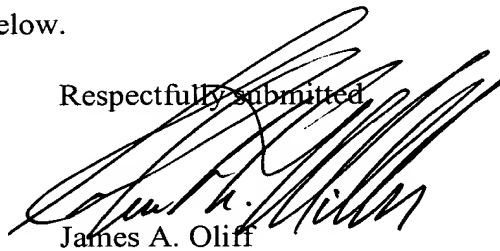
Siegel fails to overcome the deficiencies of Haneda. As such, the combination of Haneda and Siegel fails to disclose all of the features recited in claim 1, as well as the

additional features recited in the dependent claim. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-25 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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